Docket No.: D0188.70165US02

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gregory E. Sancoff et al.

Serial No.: 10/760,634

Confirmation No.: 8269

Filed: January 20, 2004

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PLACING SUTURE WIRES

INTO TISSUE FOR THE APPROXIMATION AND TENSIONING

OF TISSUE

Examiner: D. D. Yabut

Art Unit: 3734

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Dated: October 19, 2009 Electronic Signature for Trish McDonald: /Trish McDonald/

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated April 17, 2009, finally rejecting claims 7-62, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.